RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT U.S. Appln. No. 10/518,628

REMARKS

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner issues a Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the inventions of the following groups:

Group II - Claims 41-46, drawn to a biological matrix;

Group III - Claims 47-50, drawn to a method of making a biological matrix; or

Group IV - Claims 51-52, drawn to a device.

Specifically, the Examiner states that restriction is proper because the inventions listed in Groups I-IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept, i.e., biological matrices are known in the art, as evidenced by U.S. Patent 6,419,920.

Accordingly, Applicant hereby elects the invention of Group I, i.e., Claims 28-40 without traverse, and hereby cancels non-elected Claims 41-52 without prejudice to the filing of a Divisional Application thereon.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at his Washington telephone number on any questions/which might arise.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 13, 2007

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